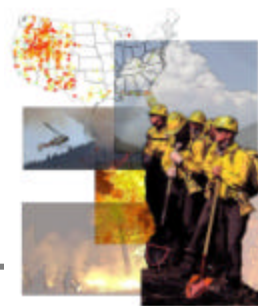


The National Fire Plan

USDA Forest Service and Department of Interior



Hazardous Fuel Reduction

The National Fire Plan - Overview

In August 2000, the President directed the Secretaries of Agriculture and the Interior to develop a response to severe wildland fires, reduce fire impacts on rural communities, and assure sufficient firefighting capacity in the future.

The Plan addresses 5 Key Points: Firefighting; Rehabilitation and Restoration; Hazardous Fuel Reduction; Community Assistance; and, Accountability.

Hazardous Fuel Reduction Budget Summary (\$ in thousands)

National Fire Plan	USDA/FS	DOI	FY 2001 Total
Hazardous Fuel Reduction	\$205,610	\$195,400	\$401,010
Applied Research & Tech Development	\$16,000	\$8,000	\$24,000
Forest Health Management Projects	\$75,944	n.a.	\$75,944

Hazardous Fuel Reduction

- Funding provided for fuel management and reduction to address dense forest vegetation resulting from decades of wildfire suppression and fire exclusion on Federal lands. Activities will focus on wildland-urban interface areas to reduce risk to people and property.
- Joint projects with States, Tribal governments, and other cooperators will be implemented, with appropriate communities identified collaboratively with States, Tribes, and other agencies.
- Treatments are planned on approximately 3.2 million acres of Federal lands (1.8 million acres treated by the USDA Forest Service and 1.4 million acres treated by Department of the Interior).
- Treatments are planned on 395,000 acres of non-Federal lands by State and local fire organizations, using funds appropriated through the National Fire Plan to the Forest Service State Fire Assistance program.

Applied Research and Technology Development

- Funding for the established interagency Joint Fire Science Program is increased under the National Fire Plan to \$16 million total (\$8 million for each Department). The additional funding will be focused on local and regional needs that pose barriers to fuels management, as well as expanding research on fuel management and harvesting treatments; fire behavior models; and tools for assessing social and economic impacts of fire.

Forest Health Management

- Funding provided for the USDA Forest Service to provide technical assistance for the management and control of native and non-native forest insects and diseases, and for the evaluation of forest and tree health after fires. This includes:
 - Suppression of bark beetles that increase in forest stands weakened by fire
 - Management and control of invasive species, including non-native weeds
 - Protection of wildland urban interface communities.

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